



# News Release

## Arizona Department of Public Safety

POST OFFICE BOX 6638 \* PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85005-6638

Date: June 5, 2007

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Direct Inquiries to: Bart Graves**

**Contact Information: [Bgraves@azdps.gov](mailto:Bgraves@azdps.gov)**

### ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY SPONSORS SWIFT WATER TRAINING

With monsoon season quickly approaching, it's important to remind the public that attempting to cross flooded roads, washes and any type of moving water is extremely dangerous.

To that end, the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) and Arizona Hiking Shack are sponsoring the sixth annual "Swift Water Rescue Rodeo."

This exciting event, which will take place Saturday, June 9, will feature several talented teams from across the state that are specially trained to rescue victims caught in fast moving water.

The teams will be competing in numerous action-packed, dramatic scenarios created to resemble real swift water rescues that have occurred in the past.

The event will begin at 9 a.m. at the Arizona Project Canal, downstream from Granite Reef Dam.

**\*\*Access from State Route 202 at Power Road. When you exit at Power Road, head north. Power Road makes a hard right turn at the canals. The event will be off a small dirt road on the left hand side.\*\***

Every year, more people are killed in floods or moving water than any other natural disaster.

In 2005, 13 people died in Arizona as a direct result of flash floods or fast moving water.

Countless other people were rescued by specially trained teams such as those that will be demonstrating their skills at this Saturday's event.

Swift water rescues, by nature, are extremely dangerous. The "Swift Water Rescue Rodeo" will give teams specializing in this perilous type of rescue a chance to perfect their skills and work with other teams from across the state.